



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

## Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

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January 24, 2007/Sent via E-mail & Fax

Rev. Fathers, GOYA Advisors, Coaches and Chaperones:

Below is some information for the upcoming tournament hosted by St. Nicholas Cathedral. Please read carefully and make note of the Dress Code, Open Container Policy (new) and Divine Liturgy Attendance (6. below).

1. **DIRECTIONS:** Attached are some of the tournament directions. More will be available by Friday. Two additional hotels had to be booked due to late registering teams.
2. **HOTELS:** According to the audit department of the Sheraton Station Square, no church will be tax exempt as the tax on the rooms is considered “Occupancy Tax” and not “State Sales Tax.”
  - a. **EXTRA ROOMS:** If you have any additional rooms, please do not cancel without calling (614) 477-4267. There are parishes who would like an additional room or two and the Sheraton Station Square has no extra rooms.
3. **BUSES:** If your parish is taking a bus to the hotel, please e-mail: [goyabasketball@odpgh.org](mailto:goyabasketball@odpgh.org) as soon as possible. Please indicate parish and a contact name, cell phone number. There are some issues that must be addressed with the hotel and your bus arrival.
4. **PARKING:**
  - a. **AT SHERATON:** For free parking, you will need a “chaser” ticket available at the front desk for when you exit the parking lot. What you will do is insert the ticket that you received when you entered the parking lot and then the 2<sup>nd</sup> “chaser” ticket in the toll machine for the gate to go up.
  - b. **AT ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL:** Parking for VANS AND BUSES ONLY will be available in front (Dithridge Street) and on the side (Forbes Avenue). Cars are to use the church lot. There will be Pittsburgh Police to guide you. If you are coming by car, please park in the lot. All the other designated spaces are needed for the large vehicles. These have been reserved for Friday and all day and night on Saturday.
5. **BRACKETS:** Have been e-mailed and will be available on the Metropolis website by Thursday. They have gone through 7 changes as of Wednesday morning. Please note that several Ohio Teams are playing on Friday evening. With 64 total teams this was necessary.
6. **SCHEDULE CHANGES:** A revised schedule has been e-mailed as well. Please note changes.
  - a. **Friday & Saturday:** *No one will be permitted to bring any beverages or open containers: water bottles, sports drinks, coffee cups, etc. into the Social Events. This is a new policy that will now be enforced for all future tournaments this season.*

- b. Friday Prayer Service: Metropolitan Maximos will be with us during the weekend. On Friday evening, all participants will be required to stay to for the prayer service.
  - c. Saturday Evening: It has been asked if there are any other dress restrictions for Saturday Evening's Greek Dance. The Dance will now begin at 7:30 p.m. The Host Parish would like to request no "wholly" jeans. ***Please review the Metropolis dress code with your GOYAns.*** (see below) The GOYAns will be served Italian Hoagies Chicken Tenders, Chips, Brownies, and Soft Drinks.
  - d. Sunday: During the last tournament, there were a number of teams who did not make the arrival time for Divine Liturgy. ***"Teams not complying are subject to discipline ranging from forfeiture of the next game to suspension from the next tournament. Players not complying are subject to discipline ranging from suspension for the Sunday game (if applicable) to suspension from the next tournament."*** –Metropolis Athletic Rules
  - e. Stay until the end of Divine Liturgy: It was noted that teams were leaving after Holy Communion and before receiving antidoron. **This is not acceptable.** Please remind your participants that they are expected to stay until the conclusion.
7. VASIE-LEIGH ANDRIOTIS: It was announced that Vasie-Leigh has left the Youth Director position due to health issues. She will be coming to the Saturday evening event so that she may be honored by His Eminence and see the GOYAns, Advisors and Chaperones that she has worked with for 7 years.

GOYA groups/Parishes are encouraged to bring a card, gift, etc., to be presented to her during the presentation. (For example: St. Nicholas, Pittsburgh is bringing flowers and has purchased 2 journals for everyone to sign during the weekend. They would like GOYAns to bring any pictures that they want to include in a scrapbook for her.)

8. SENIOR RECOGNITION: There are over 100 seniors for Recognition and we will need your assistance to organize your seniors before the presentation. Fifteen minutes prior to the presentation (10:45 pm), the seniors will be asked to gather on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor by parish. They will then be lined up in alphabetical order as the icons have their names on the back.

On behalf of His Eminence, Metropolitan Maximos, thank you for your cooperation and support for the Host Parish and the Athletic Committee.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Jim Kyros and Rhea Ballas  
 The Metropolis Athletic Committee  
 e-mail: goyabasketball@odpgh.org

**Metropolis Dress Code Guidelines:** *Appropriate dress attire is required during all tournaments events. Clothes deemed inappropriate include: clothes with profane language, reference to drugs alcohol or tobacco, and/or violent or anti-Christian propaganda. Midriff must be covered at all times, tube tops, halter tops, tank tops, spaghetti straps, short/shorts, short mini-skirts, spandex (as primary clothing), overly tight fitting or low cut apparel are not allowed. Pants are not to be worn below the hips and boxers (pajamas) are not to be worn as outerwear. The Clergy and Youth Commission Representatives reserve the right ask participants to change clothing or to cover up if they feel that what you are wearing is inappropriate.*